U.S. Serial No. 10/707,032

2

BOE 0440 PA

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

In the specification of the Application, please replace paragraphs [0027] and [0028] with the following amended paragraphs.

in Figure 2, the framework 10 is shown to further include a removable restraint and stowage system [[18]] 11. In this view, the removable restraint collectively holds the elongate ribs 14 in a captured position. In such a captured position, the foldable resilient members 20 are forcibly folded such that the distal ends 18 of the elongate ribs 14 are thereby proximately situated together. With the distal ends 18 of the elongate ribs 14 proximately situated in this manner, the elongate ribs 14 are thereby collectively arranged in a substantially parallel fashion with each other. In this way, the elongate ribs 14 are thereby made stowable in a small and substantially cylindrical volume. In general, the elongate ribs 14 are held and stowed in this position onboard a spacecraft during both takeoff and initial transit into outer space. Once the spacecraft reaches its intended orbit in outer space, the removable restraint and stowage system [[18]] 11 is then removed so that both the foldable resilient members 20 and the elongate ribs 14 of the framework 10 are released from their captured position and thereby deployed.

[0028] In Figure 3, the removable restraint and stowage system [[18]] 11 of Figure 2 has been removed so that both the foldable resilient members 20 and the elongate ribs 14 are thereby deployed into a released position. In general, whenever the removable restraint is fully removed from the elongate ribs 14, the strain energy stored in the foldable resilient members 20 while forcibly folded is then suddenly released, thereby driving and causing automatic and immediate deployment of the framework 10 by forcibly unfolding the foldable resilient members 20 in an elastic manner such that the elongate ribs 14 are thereby splayed apart into a released position. As illustrated in Figure 3, the elongate ribs 14 longitudinally radiate from the hub 12 in a substantially circumferential manner when deployed into such a released position.